

UDWPA Facts for Advisors

- ▶ Go to www.umt.edu/udwpa Upper Division Writing Proficiency Exam for complete information about the exam.
- ▶ Passing the UDWPA satisfies a general education requirement. It is neither an exit exam nor a test of competence in a major. Degree-seeking students entering UM with an AA degree must complete this requirement. Students who already hold a bachelor degree do not have to meet this requirement.
- ▶ Students, including transfer students, should pass the exam between earning their 45th and 70th college credit. The exam may be retaken until passed but should be passed before a student achieves senior standing, transfer credits included.
- ▶ The Registrar does not place registration holds on student accounts related to the UDWPA. Timely completion of the UDWPA requirement depends on the cooperation of students and their advisors. All advisors should alert advisees that they should pass the UDWPA before they fulfill the writing requirement in their major and before they are seniors. The UDWPA should be completed during the **sophomore or junior year** to avoid scheduling conflicts in the senior year.
- ▶ Students should have passed WRIT 101 or its equivalent and one other writing course before attempting the UDWPA exam. No writing course or paper substitutes for the exam. A student may enroll in an upper division writing course prior to passing the UDWPA. However, some faculty require a passing score on the UDWPA as a prerequisite for an upper division writing course.
- ▶ Registration for the UDWPA is now done on Cyberbear or at the Registration Counter once Cyberbear registration closes for the semester. The UDWPA is listed as a course on Cyberbear. Students who register for a section in GBB, LA, or UC take the test on a computer; those who register in NULH write the exam in a bluebook. Students may add or drop the UDWPA without drop/add fees up to three (3) days prior to an exam. Registration for any exam closes three (3) days before the exam. There are no on-site registrations. Students should not register for multiple sections.
- ▶ Any student who will take the UDWPA at DSS or off-campus must register to take the test in the NULH section. To request DSS accommodation students should call 243-2243. For off-campus administration of the exam, the contact is growl@mso.umt.edu. Off-campus administration is permitted at the discretion of the director for students not residing near Missoula due to demonstrated professional or academic commitments elsewhere.
- ▶ Students view their UDWPA score on Cyberbear under Student Records. Advisors will find UDWPA scores in Banner in SOATEST by typing in the test name WPA (formerly WASS). Scores are expressed as a sequence of two numbers, 1-5. Scores of 11, 12, or 22 are non-passing. All others are passing scores. Scores are posted to Cyberbear/SOATEST approximately 10 days after each exam.
- ▶ No student is exempt from the UDWPA on the basis of the six-year catalog rule. Information about appealing the exam or the requirement can be found on the Upper Division Writing Proficiency Exam website at www.umt.edu/udwpa.
- ▶ Students are advised to prepare seriously for the exam using campus resources. Tutoring, workshops, writing courses, and online tutorials are available through The Writing Center at 243-2266 and growl@mso.umt.edu. Students who fail the exam are urged to find out why by reviewing their exam with a tutor at The Writing Center in LA 144.